

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 2, 3, 5-7, 11, 14, 23, 26, 28, 29, 31-33, 37, 40, 49, 52, 54, 55, 57-59, 63, 66, 75, and 78 are allowable.

Independent claims 1, 4, 27, 30, 53, and 56 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claims 2, 5, 28, 31, 54, and 57, respectively, and claims 2, 5, 28, 31, 54, and 57 have been cancelled.

The amendments of claims 4, 30, and 56 have been drafted to overcome the 35 USC 112, second paragraph, rejections applied thereto,

Therefore, allowance of claims 1, 4, 27, 30, 53, and 56 and all claims dependent therefrom is deemed to be warranted.

Claims 15-26, 41-52, and 67-78 have been canceled. Claims 3, 29, and 55 have been amended to depend directly from their respective base claims. Claim 59 has been amended to overcome the objection thereto, and claims 13 and 39 have been amended to correct typographical errors.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/James E. Ledbetter/

Date: April 29, 2009
JEL/DWW/att

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